



ABSTRACT

~~Title: "POSITIVE WORKING THERMAL IMAGING ASSEMBLY OR STRUCTURE, METHOD FOR THE MANUFACTURE THEREOF AND PRODUCTS USED AS LITHOGRAPHIC PRINTING PLATES AND THE LIKE"~~

The invention relates to ~~Positive~~ A positive working thermal imaging assembly comprising: A) a substrate; and B) a thermally sensitive imaging element of a composite layer structure comprising: (I) a first layer on the substrate of a polymeric material soluble in aqueous alkali solution, optionally containing compounds that absorb and convert light to heat and/or a coloured dye or pigment; said first layer being converted at its surface by treatment with solutions at elevated temperatures that contain an active compound or compounds capable of rendering said first polymeric material ~~insoluble to~~ less soluble in an aqueous alkali developer at the point of contact; the first layer being oleophilic; (ii) optionally, a first intermediate layer between the substrate and the said first layer with a second polymeric material which is soluble or dispersible in aqueous solution optionally containing compounds that absorb and convert light or radiation to heat and/or a coloured dye or pigment coated from a solvent that does not substantially dissolve the first layer; and (iii) optionally, a third or top layer over the converted first layer and composed of a second polymeric material which is soluble or dispersible in aqueous solution optionally containing compounds that absorb and convert light or radiation to heat and/or a visible coloured dye or pigment; the first intermediate layer and the third layer being applied with a solvent that does not substantially dissolve the converted first layer.

~~The assembly is useful as off-set lithographic printing plates, for color proofing films and photoresist. The invention also refers to the process for making such assembly and products formed therefrom.~~